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**DIRECTIONS FOR OPERATING
THE DURABILT F. O. MINUTE BOOK**

(FLEXIBLE POSTS) SHORT PULL ROD STYLE

PATENT 967537—1019174—1056926—1247438—1247704—1738305
ABOVE PATENT NUMBERS MUST NOT BE COVERED

TO UNLOCK the book, raise cover to be unlocked to a vertical position, and pull rod out as far as it will come.

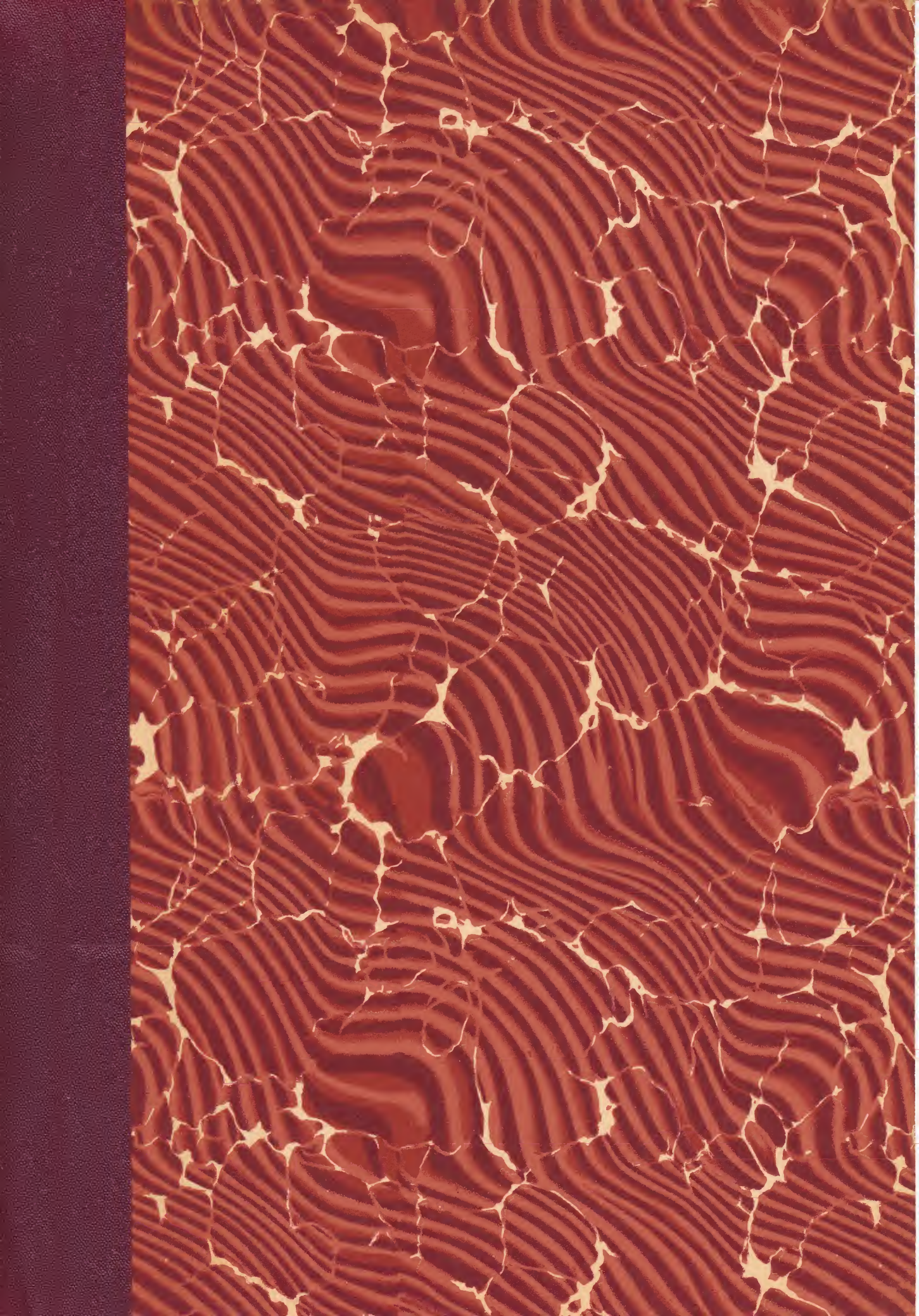
TO LOCK—Adjust the cover back into position so the notches in the cover fit over the posts, then push in rod.

Do not attempt to unlock either cover unless opposite cover is locked, as posts should always be held in one of the covers.

TO LOCK BOOK PERMANENTLY—This is only to be done when all the sheets are written up and placed in the binder, for once permanently locked, it is impossible to unlock or open it.

For this purpose two permanent locking buttons are furnished. Insert these sealing buttons into the round holes near end of locking case so that the slot in the Sealing Button runs lengthwise with the binder. Then drive in button with sufficient force to turn the ends of split button. This permanently locks and seals the book.

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76-17837

Mary J. Reifsnider McGill

M A R Y J R E I F S N I D E R M c G I L L

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Mary J. Reifsnider was born in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, September 6, 1849, daughter of Malvina Mills and Joseph Reifsnider of Pennsylvania Dutch descent. When Mary was six months of age the family moved to White Pigeon, Michigan, where the father died within less than one year later. Some time after, when Mary was a young girl, the mother married again and Mary and her mother went to live with the new husband on a farm about seven miles from Shipshewana, LaGrange County, Indiana.

Mary J. Reifsnider married July 4, 1865, James Shay. They were the parents of a daughter, Lillie M., born November 19, 1872, married June 18, 1898, George W. Stedman, born October 12, 1872, died April 12, 1934.

In 1875, Mr. and Mrs. Shay and daughter moved to White Pigeon, where Mr. Shay died. Some time later Mrs. Shay married Mr. McGill. Since 1898, Mrs. McGill made her home with her daughter in Kalamazoo until her death March 2, 1937. She joined the Baptist Church in White Pigeon when a child.

Written March 26, 1937.

Donald Clair McGinnis



D O N A L D C L A I R M c G I N N I S

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Donald Clair McGinnis was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, February 9, 1920, the son of Henry S. McGinnis of Irish ancestry and Jessie C. Singer McGinnis, who was born in Johnsonburg, Pennsylvania, August 23, 1898, of Pennsylvania Dutch descent. Henry S. McGinnis was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, March 8, 1900. He enlisted in the First World War in Company C, 126th Infantry and served twenty-two months fighting on five fronts, for which he received medals. He was gassed and came home a disabled veteran and died January 11, 1944. His wife died April 3, 1944.

Donald had one brother, Douglas James, born August 11, 1931, and one sister, Charlotte Gayle, born [REDACTED], both of whom reside with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry McGinnis, 826 Buckhout avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan, at this time, 1944.

Donald McGinnis attended Knollwood School and Western State High School from which he was graduated in June 1939. Following this graduation

Donald found employment with the Gibson Mandolin Company until he enlisted in the Radio Division of the Air Corps.

In September 1941, he left Kalamazoo for St. Louis, Missouri, and spent a month in Jefferson Barracks training before assignment to an airfield for five months schooling in radio. He was then transferred to Scott Field, Belleville, Illinois, and was there five months. His next training was at Tyndall Field, Tampa, Florida, where he was graduated from gunnery school and received his wings. After some further training on other fields, he was sent to Manchester, New Hampshire, where he was advanced to Staff Sergeant.

In the fall of 1942, Donald McGinnis went overseas to England, having been assigned to the 8th Army Air Force.

He was reported missing in action February 16, 1943, while on an operational flight in the European Area. The plane was last seen one mile south of Selseybil, England.

His mother received the Purple Heart awarded posthumously to S/Sgt. Donald McGinnis. He had also won the Air Medal and four Oak Leaf Clusters for having engaged in dive-bomber combat missions over enemy occupied territory. These medals were

presented to Donald's father October 12, 1943 by Commandant David A. Tate, a Lieutenant Colonel, in command of Kellogg Field, in a solemn ceremony arranged by Red Arrow Veterans of Foreign Wars post.

A year after Donald was reported missing in action a message from the government informed his mother that her son was officially presumed to be dead. Mrs. McGinnis felt the loss of her son and the loss of her husband within so short a time so keenly that she lived scarcely two months after receiving the message.

Personal Characteristics

Donald McGinnis was a little above average height and of slender build, with light brown hair and blue eyes. He had fine features and was a good looking young man.

He liked to go hunting and fishing and enjoyed the usual sports of the average boy. He was musical and liked to do his own composing. He played the Hawaiian guitar very creditably. He was a lover of natural beauty and had the appreciation of an artist as he watched the sunsets and the flowers. He had no bad habits.

Donald was a home loving boy, kind in his attitudes and Christian in his way of life. He was a preparatory member of The Simpson Methodist Church

in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

When Donald McGinnis lost his life in World War II, Kalamazoo lost one of its finest talented young men. His memory will be cherished by all who appreciate the sacrifice which he made.

Thaddeus Joseph McHugh Sr.





Mrs L. J. McHugh

Alice Susannah Wood McHush

T H A D D E U S J O S E P H M c H U G H S r .

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A L I C E S U S A N N A H W O O D M c H U G H

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Thaddeus Joseph McHugh, Sr., was born at 222 West North street in Kalamazoo, Michigan, March 17, 1859, son of Patrick and Bridget McGuire McHugh of Irish descent.

Patrick McHugh left Ireland in 1838. Previously his three uncles and their families had come to Maidstone, Canada, due to England's policy of rewarding army officers with parts of Irish soil and these three uncles were among those who were thus dispossessed. They sold their live stock, grain and tools, which they were allowed to retain, and booked passage for America.

When Patrick came to Canada he looked up his three uncles and they advised him to come to Detroit, Michigan, as the Michigan Central Railroad Company was building the railroad to Kalamazoo. On reaching Marshall, Michigan, Patrick was given a sub-contract to clear the right of way to Kalamazoo. He procured two yokes of oxen to haul the logs into piles where

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they were burned. When he reached Kalamazoo and his contract had been fulfilled, about 1844, he found the village so attractive that he wanted to stay and traded his oxen to T. C. Sheldon for the west half of the now city block bounded by West North, Church and West Frank streets. He then went back to Maidstone and married Bridget McGuire and they came back to Kalamazoo to make their home. They had five children: Lizzie, Mary, Patrick, Thaddeus and Sarah, all deceased except Thaddeus.

Thaddeus Joseph McHugh, Sr., attended the North School on West Willard street, then the Frank Street School. On reaching the eighth grade he went to the Roman Catholic Parochial School, which was started about that time, and continued until he was fourteen years of age, when he went to work in the old Forbes Handle Factory, now the Kalamazoo Sled Company. He has always worked in factories, the last thirty-three years for the Gibson Company. For a number of years he was foreman until about 1915, when he became superintendent. Since 1922, he has been doing experimental work, designing, drafting, etc., and still holds his position doing special work.

May 19, 1885, he was married to Alice Susannah

Wood by the Reverend Francis O'Brien, the pastor of St. Augustine Roman Catholic Church in Kalamazoo.

They built the home at 216 West North street at the time of their marriage and have resided there ever since. She was born March 16, 1862, daughter of John and Susannah McCaffrey Wood of Irish descent and residents of Marshall, Michigan, both of whom died the same week in 1873. Henry, Mary Elizabeth, and Charles were the other children in the family and they are all deceased.

Alice attended the public schools in Marshall until the death of her parents and then went to live with her grand father at Lee Center about nine miles north of Marshall and attended the rural school there. When she was about fourteen years of age she came to Kalamazoo and attended the old Union School for about two years. She then went into the millinery store of Rosenbaum and Israel and learned the millinery trade and remained in the store about nine years, during which time the store was taken over by the Speyer Brothers. Then she was married.

All their children except the oldest were born in the home at 216 North street. They are:

William G., born October 3, 1886, married

Genevieve Wright, resides in Salt Lake City, where he is vice president of the Morse-Merrill Milling Company, and is the father of six children;

Glen Patrick, born March 18, 1888, married Agnes Scheid, resides in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and is the father of four girls and a boy;

Charles John, born January 7, 1890, married Emma Thomas, resides in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and is the father of five children;

Donald Thaddeus, born October 6, 1892. married Alice Medill; he died October 6, 1937; he was the father of five girls and two boys;

Ethelind Alice, born September 7, 1894, married Olin E. Harvey; they have seven children and reside in Battle Creek, Michigan;

Mary Janet, born March 11, 1896. married Carl Fuhrmann and died about 1924;

Robert Francis, born February 18, 1898, resides in Kalamazoo, Michigan;

Lucile Tempest, born during a storm July 7, 1900, resides with her parents and is a book-keeper in the Kalamazoo County Highway office;

Thaddeus C., Jr., born December 25, 1903, married Barbara Ramstine, resides in Kalamazoo and is foreman of the maintenance department of the Kalamazoo Plating Company.

When Thaddeus Joseph McHugh, Sr., was about twenty years of age he was invited to sing at a benefit entertainment for the Kalamazoo Fire Department, and must have made an impression on Professor F. B. Morris, because he was invited to the professor's studio immediately afterwards and was told that he

had a very promising voice. Thaddeus studied under the professor for over three years after working hours. During that time Mr. Gibson, through the efforts of the Ladies Library Club gave an entertainment for the Children's Home on South West-nedge avenue, and Mr. McHugh was invited by Mr. Gibson to sing. It was the first time he ever sang in public and the newspaper accounts of it gave him the credit of winning the laurels of the evening. For many years he has been singing at public entertainments, appearing in many of the churches of the city in concerts. At one time he belonged to a male quartet, taking the part of first tenor.

Mr. and Mrs. McHugh were both brought up in the Roman Catholic Church and are faithful members of St. Augustine. He has been a member of that church all his life and she has been a member ever since she came to Kalamazoo. When he was about twenty years of age he joined the surpliced choir under Father O'Brien. At one time he was a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Elks, but with advance of age he dropped out.

Mr. McHugh's father was a Democrat and he has been a member of that party, but is not in favor of

the present administration. He is a base ball fan and was a member of the Light Guards before the Spanish-American War. He was a member of the city fire department in the days when the boys would often run with the hose cart to the fires and the firemen had to pay five dollars for a flannel jacket and a metal hat and they became members by vote of their brother firemen.

On May 19th, 1940, Mr. and Mrs. McHugh celebrated their fifty-fifth anniversary of their wedding day with a family dinner at their home. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. Olin E. Harvey of Battle Creek, their son-in-law and daughter, who on the same day celebrated their twenty-fifth wedding day anniversary.

Leland R. McKenny





Mrs Leland R. McKenry.

M R . & M R S .

L E L A N D R O B E R T M c K E N N Y

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Leland Robert McKenny was born at Ward Station, near Rural, Indiana, March 14, 1887, son of Robert McKenny, who came from Dublin, Ireland, to Rural, Indiana, when he was ten years of age and paid for his passage by working. Leland's mother was Filina Champion McKenny, who met her husband in Rural, Indiana.

The sisters of Leland were: Iva, who married Charles Weagley and resides in White Pigeon, Michigan; Pansy, who married Lee Widmeyer and is deceased; Margaret, who married Raymond Bower and resides in Eugene, Oregon.

When Leland was seventeen years of age, in 1904, the family moved to a farm in Florence township, St. Joseph county, Michigan, where they lost everything in a disastrous fire. Leland worked for the neighboring farmers until he was twenty-two years old when he went to Kansas City, Kansas, and was employed by his uncle in a piano store for several years. He then came to Jackson, Michigan, and was employed for a time by Mahers Brothers.

November 22, 1917, Leland Robert McKenny enlisted in the Depot Brigade of the Army of the United States in the First World War and was discharged at Fort Custer, Michigan, December 3, 1918, having served as sergeant of the Depot Brigade.

In 1919, Mr. McKenny made a trip to Halifax, Nova Scotia, to put on a piano sale in a music store, after which he returned to work for Mahers Brothers.

While in Halifax he met Leah May Worth, who was at that time post mistress in charge of a branch post office in that city. On December 23, 1920, they were married in Detroit, Michigan, by the Reverend Llewellyn Brown, pastor of the Grand River Avenue Baptist Church. She was the daughter of Henry and Phoebe McCoubrey Worth. Henry Worth was of English descent and so was his wife, who was the daughter of a Methodist minister. Leah May Worth was born in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada, August 24, 1897, and attended school there. Her mother died March 8, 1917, and her father passed away April 28, 1917, after which Leah May went to Halifax.

In 1921, Mr. McKenny purchased the Henry Lintz store in Constantine, Michigan, and continued the business until 1929, when he and his wife moved to

Kalamazoo, Michigan, where he worked for Grinnell Brothers for a short time, and in 1930 was made manager of the Kalamazoo Monument Company, retiring in 1940 on account of ill health.

In Kalamazoo, Mr. and Mrs. McKenny made their home at 1207 Wayside drive and he was one of the promoters of the fire and water district on the East side.

Fond of travel, he had been in every state in the Union. He was fond of fishing, and was a member of the Joseph B. Westnedge post, American Legion; Small Business Men's club.

In personal appearance he was about six feet, one inch tall, weighed about two hundred pounds and was of a ruddy complexion. In his youth he played base ball and foot ball and was enthusiastically interested in those sports in later years. He read good books and periodicals and was especially interested in history. He was very friendly and had a keen sense of humor, indulging in witticisms and jokes. While in Constantine he served as mayor.

He was devoutly religious and a member of the Methodist Church in Constantine, where for several years he was secretary of the official board and was leader of the men's class. He was chaplain of the

the American Legion. He studied his Bible and memorized parts of it and frequently repeated the Twenty-third Psalm.

Death came to Leland Robert McKenny at his home on Wayside drive Thursday evening, November 26, 1942. The funeral was held from the Truesdale chapel at two o'clock the following Monday afternoon with the Joseph B. Westnedge post, American Legion in charge. Interment was in Riverside cemetery. The foregoing was written in 1943.

Orville J. McNett



O R V I L L E J M c N E T T

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Orville J. McNett was born in Bangor, Michigan, July 25, 1884, son of Lucy Ann O'Brien and John McNett of Scotch descent. He attended school in Watervliet, Michigan, to which place the family moved while he was yet a boy. He was graduated from the Watervliet high school in 1903 and attended Western State Teachers College in 1904 and 1905.

His first business experience was in the King Paper Mill as a millwright. He was there but a short time and then went with the Kalamazoo Paper Company as a millwright and remained with that company until about 1920 when he was employed by the Kalamazoo Vegetable Parchment Company and remained with the last named corporation until his death. At one time he worked for the Kalamazoo Gazette for a brief period.

June 15, 1910, Orville J. McNett married Vera L. Whitmore, daughter of Frances Eva Sanders and Joseph Whitmore of Watervliet, Michigan, born April 3rd, 1894. They had an adopted son, Paul Francis, born September 28, 1916, died Sep. 23, 1935.

They also raised as a daughter Virginia Louise, born November 18, 1917, married Gordon Smith December 4, 1934 and is the mother of Gordon Merle, born November 5, 1935. Gordon Smith was born March 22, 1914.

Orville J. McNett had the following brothers and sisters: James H. McNett, who married Alma Allen and resides in Kalamazoo; Bertha R., who married Frank Overton and resides in Bangor, Michigan; Mary Frances, who married Royal Hough and died July 9, 1936; Lydia A., who married Harry Allen and resides in Grand Rapids, Michigan; Harry D. McNett, who resides in Kalamazoo.

Orville J. McNett was a Democrat in politics and was a member of the Reorganized Church of Latter Day Saints. He was a good mechanic, a faithful husband and in every way a fine man.

Death came to him as the result of an accident while at his work March 17, 1937. The funeral was conducted by Elder Alva Dexter and the Reverend W. H. Helrigel and burial was in Riverside cemetery.

Written May 1, 1937.

Nelson Hilton McParland



N E L S O N H I L T O N M c P A R L A N D

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Nelson Hilton McParland was born in Romeo, Michigan, January 29, 1872, the son of Patrick and Melinda Stevens McParland. The father was of Scotch and the mother of English parentage. Nelson's brothers and sisters were Harry, Joshua, Bruce, Rose, Hattie and Louise, all, except Joshua, deceased at the time of this writing in 1943.

Nelson attended the village school at Romeo and was graduated from the high school. He was also graduated from a small military school at Orchard Lake, near Pontiac, Michigan.

When ready to earn his own living the young man found employment in a cigar store in Detroit. Upon leaving there he worked for a time in Toledo, Ohio, and then became a salesman for a tobacco firm and later for Grinnell Brothers, selling pianos for that well known firm. On severing connection with that company, Mr. McParland came to Kalamazoo, Michigan, and opened a cigar store at 151 Portage street, where he remained for thirty-eight years or until his death.

Mr. McParland's first marriage was to Miss Maud Goodrich, of Mendon, Michigan. She was taken by death and her body was buried at Centerville, Michigan.

His second marriage was to Goldie E. Davies, of Kalamazoo, Michigan, March 17, 1920. She was the daughter of Winfield T., and Laura B. Winters Spitler, the other members of the family being: Thomas, who resides in Los Angeles; Melvin O., deceased; Chalmer E., of Kalamazoo, Michigan; and Dean Stanley, deceased.

The children of this second marriage are: Anita Marie, born November 23, 1921, employed in the office of the Brundage Company and residing with her mother; Helen Jane, born May 23, 1925, a senior in Central High School, also residing with her mother.

Mr. McParland was baptized when a child, in a Methodist Church and was affiliated with the Damon Methodist Church of which his wife and daughters are members.

He was a member of the Elks lodge. In appearance he was of medium height and weight with hazel eyes and dark brown hair turning white in later years.

Mr. McParland was an interesting conversation-

alist, keenly interested in world affairs, enjoyed debate and was quick and witty in repartee. He was industrious and a good business man. His greatest interests were his business and his home. He was devoted to and proud of his wife and beautiful daughters and was tender and loving in his relation to them.

Mr. McParland had that rare gift of making and keeping friends and he held them close to his heart through the years. He was a man of generous impulses and benevolent toward those in need.

Death came to him February 17, 1943, after a short illness. Funeral services were conducted by the Reverend Jack Steele, pastor of the Damon Methodist Church and burial was in Riverside cemetery.

"To live in the hearts we leave behind is
not to die."

Albert William Meskil



A L B E R T W I L L I A M M E S K I L

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Corporal Albert William Meskil, ASN 36419972, Battery B, 548th AAA AW Battalion, died November 2, 1945, as the result of an automobile accident in Amiens, France. A Military Service was conducted by Captain Ira A. Kirk, Chaplain United States Army, on November 5, 1945, and the body was laid to rest in St. Andre United States Military Cemetery, Grave No. 183; Row No. 10; Plot No. K. This cemetery is located about forty miles south of Rouen, France. It is kept attractive with flowers and shrubs and is maintained by the United States Army.

Birth and Education

Albert William Meskil was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, August 4, 1923, the son of Frank James Meskil, who was born in Creston, Iowa. Albert's mother was Christina Bertha Kuhn Meskil, who was born in South Haven, Michigan, with both German and Irish blood in the ancestral line.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Meskil were married in South Haven, Michigan, and he was a veteran in

World War I and was wounded in action. They also became the parents of:

Leonard Howard, born October 6, 1922, died in 1935;

Harold James, born May 12, 1931; and

George Frank, born .

Albert attended kindergarten at the Edison School in Kalamazoo and the Junior High School at the Washington School. He entered Central High School in 1938 and was graduated with the class of 1941, before he was eighteen years of age.

After graduation from high school he found employment at various places, one of which was the Kalamazoo Foundry and Machine Shop, where he did mechanical drawing. After a short time there he decided to go to the National Youth Administration School on Jackson street to learn the work of a machinist and won a place on the honor roll there.

Later Albert was employed by the Sutherland Paper Company until he entered the armed service of the United States January 18, 1943, and on the 25th of that month was sent to Fort Custer for three days and then on to Camp Haan, California, for basic training in Anti-Air Craft Artillery. For advanced training he went to Camp Erwin, California.

He was granted a furlough from July 10 to 22 in 1943, and returned to Kalamazoo, after which he went

back to Camp Erwin, California. When on maneuvers in Oregon, Albert was promoted to Private First Class. For a short time his outfit was at Fort Lewis, State of Washington. Another furlough was granted him from November 26 to December 9, 1943, and he again returned to Kalamazoo and afterward went back to the State of Washington and from there to California, where he remained until his third furlough from July 13 to 25, 1944, when he again visited in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and then returned to California for another month of work and was then sent to New York and shipped overseas September 28, 1944, having been promoted to the rank of Corporal.

After his outfit landed in England they prepared to go to Normandy. After spending twelve stormy days on transport they landed in Normandy October 28, 1944. They proceeded through rain and mud and cold through Paris into Belgium, Holland and Germany. They became a part of the Ninth Army and fought at the Roer and Rhine and Elbe rivers as well as in other engagements and Albert did well his part.

After V-E day Corporal Albert William Meskil served with the occupational forces in Belgium and France and expected to spend Christmas 1945 with his family in Kalamazoo, Michigan, but the automobile accident changed all that.

Marriage

Miss Helen Johnson journeyed to Riverside, California, from Kalamazoo, Michigan, and on April 12, 1944, was married to Albert William Meskil by the Reverend A. W. Hesse in the Emanuel Lutheran Church. Mrs. Meskil remained near the camp until her husband's furlough in July, when they both returned to Kalamazoo, Michigan. They became the parents of Judith Ann [REDACTED], who was born in Kalamazoo and resides with her mother, who lives with her father and sister at 1013 Lake St., Kalamazoo.

Personal Characteristics

Albert Meskil was five feet six inches tall and weighed about one hundred forty-five pounds. He had light brown hair and blue eyes and a fair skin.

He was fond of children and had a baby brother but never saw his own small daughter. He won honors in high school in track events and the high jump and played basket ball with his class. He liked to swim and often went to visit his grandmother in South Haven, Michigan, and enjoyed swimming in Lake Michigan.

He also enjoyed music and had lessons on his Hawaiian guitar and played it for his own pleasure. He liked to listen to radio programs and was a quiet, home loving young man. He especially

enjoyed tinkering with and riding his motorcycle and repairing and driving his old car.

The following are excerpts from a letter written by Chaplain Ira A. Kirk:

"He was held in very high esteem by all those with whom he had been associated in the several months they had served together.

"Even tho it will hurt you afresh, I think you will wish me to tell you that it was with great joy and pride that he showed his comrades the picture of the baby you had sent. He spoke frequently of both members of his family back at home."

Lieutenant John H. Hoffman also wrote to Mrs. Meskil and the following excerpts were taken from his letter:

"Your husband, Albert, was in my platoon during the entire time that he was with the 548th AAA Bn. and I knew him very well. He was always a good soldier and could be depended on to do any task and do it well.

"The men wanted to do something for Al's baby so they purchased a victory bond for you to use as you see fit." The bond was for \$1,000.

Albert was raised in a Christian home in the Lutheran faith and attended Church and Sunday school. He was confirmed at the age of fourteen and remained true to his convictions.

He was well liked by all and his hand was always out to help anyone in need. He was ever ready to aid those who suffered from misfortune. No family in our country could boast of a finer son or husband. Faith lights the eyes of the two

women beloved by him, his wife and his mother —
faith that this young life may not have been given
for naught, but that somehow through work and hope
and love and Christian fellowship with other nations
the cause for which he laid down his life may be
realized. The lines below express the faith
cherished by his loved ones:

"I can not say and I will not say
That they are dead - they are just away,
With a cheery smile and a wave of the hand
They have wandered into an unknown land,
And left us dreaming how very fair
It needs must be - since they linger there.

And you, Oh!you, who the wildest yearn
For the old time step, and the glad return,
Think of them faring on, as dear
In the love of There as the love of Here,
Think of them still as the same, I say,
They are not dead - they are just away."

Mr. and Mrs. John P. Meyler



Mrs. J. P. Meijler

J. P. Meijler

J O H N P E T E R M E Y L E R

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John Peter Meyler was born February 17, 1846, in Kolijsplaat, Province of Zeeland, the Netherlands, son of Nellie A. Holmas and Marinus Meyler, who was a wagon maker.

At the age of three years John Peter went with his parents to the village of Heinkenzand, where he attended school. His first business experience was as a cab driver.

February 3, 1886, Mr. Meyler was married to Elizabeth Noteboom. They were the parents of the following children: Marinus, who was born October 17, 1886, and resides with his mother north and west of Kalamazoo; Joseph, who was born December 3, 1887, married Stella Baker, died May 25, 1935, and was buried in Mountain Home cemetery, Otsego, Michigan; Peter John, who was born October 14, 1891, served overseas in the World War for eight months, married Mildred Gray and resides in Kalamazoo; Jennie, born April 7, 1895, married Hiram Paul and resides in Kalamazoo; Elizabeth, born April 9, 1897, married Richard Potts and resides in Kalamazoo. Joseph Meyler was the father of Elizabeth, born June 28, 1918.

Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Paul are the parents of Betty June, born June 16, 1918. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Potts are the parents of three children: Betty Mae, born [redacted]; Bernard John, born July 11, 1922; Thelma Jean, born [redacted].

John Peter Meyler had two brothers and two sisters, Peter, William, Tina and Catherine.

Mrs. John Meyler's mother was Jennie DeFriend and her father's name was Joseph Noteboom, a groceryman. Her brothers and sisters were: Anna, Maude, Mary, Nellie, Bolten and John - all deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. John P. Meyler came to Kalamazoo in 1888. For two years he worked for the Kalamazoo Spring and Axle Company, after which he was employed for a short time in Van Bochove's florist shop, and later he spent two years in the employ of Van Bochove's Lumber Company. Then followed twenty years of employment with the Kalamazoo Water Works, until 1909, when he became a farmer for the rest of his life.

Mr. and Mrs. Meyler were members of the Free Christian Reformed Church and he was a Republican in politics.

When a young man Mr. Meyler was an athlete and a very swift runner. On one occasion a burgomaster wagered he could drive his horse to a town twelve miles away and arrive before Mr. Meyler could get there on

foot. The burgomaster offered to go the long way and let Mr. Meyler go the shorter way, but Mr. Meyler ran the long way and won the wager.

Death came to John P. Meyler April 2, 1935. The funeral was conducted by the Reverends Henry Kooi and Peter Kuiken, the latter from Grand Prairie. Burial was in Grand Prairie cemetery. This is written in 1936.

Marinus Meyer



Marius Maylor

M A R I N U S M E Y L E R

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Marinus Meyler was born in Heinkenzand, the Netherlands, October 17, 1886, son of John P. and Elizabeth Noteboom Meyler. When he was twenty-two months old the family came to Kalamazoo, Michigan, and resided at several places including John street and Lake street until 1910, when the family moved to the farm on the townline road between Kalamazoo and Oshtemo townships, now known as the Drake road.

Marinus attended the Lake Street School in Kalamazoo until he completed the first eight grades and then went to work at the age of sixteen for the Kalamazoo Sled Company for two and one-half years; he then went to the Bryant Paper Company for six months as calender helper; for the next six years, from 1905 to 1911, he was employed by the King Paper Company to run washers; in 1911 he returned to the Bryant Paper Company to run calenders until the strike of 1912; he then worked at various jobs until 1926 when he again went back to the Bryant Paper Company to run calender machines until 1935, when he was made calender foreman, a position he

has held to the time of this writing in 1941. He has supervision over the biggest calender machine in the world and directs the work of as many as twenty-seven men.

In politics, Mr. Meyler is a Republican; he belongs to the Holland American Aid Society. He was brought up in a religious home and attends and supports the Oakwood Undenominational Church.

He used to enjoy wrestling and is fond of hunting and fishing, often going north as far as Mackinac Island for vacations. He likes to read history, especially about Michigan, and greatly enjoys the out-of-doors.

It is something of a coincidence that he once lived where the Bryant Paper Company mill now stands, where so many years he has worked. He has always resided with his parents and since his father's death he and his mother continue to live together. This speaks plainly for his devotion to his mother. In fact, Mr. Meyler is one of those substantial citizens who steadily and faithfully do their part and make our country strong, industrially, socially and politically. The more there are of his kind the better.



Michigan Female Seminary



jeanette Fisher

M I C H I G A N F E M A L E S E M I N A R Y
K A L A M A Z O O M I C H I G A N
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Beautiful for situation was the site selected by the committee appointed by Michigan Presbyterian Synod for the location for one of the pioneer schools in our state, the Michigan Female Seminary as an institution for higher education for young women.

It was organized by the adoption of the Articles of Association, constituting it a corporation, the 15th day of December, 1865, with twenty-one trustees and Dr. George W. Duffield, D. D., of Detroit, made President. An executive committee of five, F. W. Curtenius, W. A. Tomlinson, H. D. Wells, C. W. Hall and L. H. Trask were empowered to act for the board and carry out it's instructions between meetings. The means for it's start was aided greatly by Rev. John Jay Slocum and soon 32 acres east of the Kalamazoo River was decided to be the ideal location with it's ascending hills in the beautiful oak grove, it's wide spreading view of the flowing river, and the city nestled in the valley with it's sunset hills on the western border, made it outstanding in many ways.

The building was started. It's solid foundations laid in 1863, but owing to the demand caused by the Civil War, was not finished until 1866 when it was furnished and set in order for it's opening in September, 1867, when seventy pupils and an ample force of teachers could be made comfortable.

Miss Jeanette Fisher, a graduate of Mt. Holyoke, Massachusetts, under Mary Lyon, was secured as principal and carried on a most successful career for ten years when she was married to Mr. E. S. Moore of Three Rivers. She had as her first corps of teachers, Miss Julia Esty, Miss Sarah A. Greer, Miss Lura Newhall, Miss Jane Smead, Miss Fanny Guernsey and Miss Sarah E. Felton. What fine women they were, staunch, steady, true and gracious. Such splendid examples of womanhood to be the leaders of young women in their training. Many of these teachers graduated from Mt. Holyoke or Lake Erie Seminary.

As the charter stated, the purpose was to educate young ladies physically, mentally, morally and religiously, and essentially the school should be modeled after Mr. Holyoke, Massachusetts. The age for admission was fifteen years, as the work planned for the school needed the maturity and the strength

of character seldom reached before that age.

In the early years the pupils took part in the domestic life of the Seminary home, and were assigned to some part of the housework as part of their daily task, that while the home and mother should inculcate the principles of home-making, yet what they did here strengthened these habits and in these later years it is well known that many who came, received the training making them women of worth in the world, filling many places of trust and establishing homes showing well the value of the four square training in the years spent in the Seminary.

The religious training was highly emphasized, church attendance being obligatory each Sabbath unless ill or too severe weather for the long walk to the downtown church. Many older residents still recall the school seated in the gallery of the Presbyterian Church, while a few attended some other denomination. Each Sunday afternoon all gathered in the chapel for Bible study and how much all gained in values not counted in dollars and cents. The 8 o'clock prayer meeting each evening, the 15 minute quiet hour each morning and evening, when each one alone was expected to hold sweet converse with their Lord and Master. Such character

building influences drew many to accept the Christian Life, and fitted them for His service, sending out missionaries to both Home and Foreign fields and developed splendid workers in places where they later made their homes.

Students of Art and Music found the instructors in these branches of unusual capabilities, and could go far under their direction, as many of them had advance training in France and Germany.

Athletics were not known as such in the early days, but weekly calisthenic drills were held and exercises with dumbbells, wands and rings were considered most healthful, and were added to the required one hours walk daily in the great out-of-doors.

Social life was also featured in receptions, concerts and various entertainments arranged by the school, while downtown activities such as lectures and concerts were attended by all who desired. Many homes were opened to groups who enjoyed the contact with the family circle.

Miss Fisher proved that the right choice was made in placing her at the head to mold and guide in this new undertaking. All recall with pride how courageously she carried on, her commanding presence,

her dignity, her geniality, her Christian Spirit and strict discipline, but in all she gained the love and obedience of her pupils, and in the years since she has been held in most loving remembrance. Teachers came and went, each leaving most indelible influence on those they taught.

The Seminary proved her worth. Changing times required changes in conditions, and owing to the generosity of Mr. Willard Dodge of Kalamazoo, the fine addition of Dodge Hall became possible, and the whole building was equipped with all the up-to-date facilities of that day. This was soon followed in the changed program merging into a preparatory college curriculum, and it's life flowed on in more far reaching channels. Dr. John Grey, D. D., was elected President of the Preparatory College. The students having the required standings were accepted in the University of Michigan and Wellesley College.

The first graduating class numbered four. Caroline A. Howard, M. Alice Trask, D. Aristina Webster and Frances E. Wheelock.

Years passed on, the opening of other schools, the Synod losing its interest, turning to Alma College, and loosening its hold on this child of their making, the lack of funds increasing indebtedness,

spelled it's doom, and in 1907 it's doors closed and for the years since, it stood a lonely forsaken sentinel looking down on it's past usefulness, a very pitiable picture to those who chanced to see it.

Had the purchaser, Mr. O. M. Allen, lived, all feel sure he would have found someone who would have still made it worth while in some phase of education for which it was founded, but as he passed out of life no one else seemed interested and no further effort developed, and it has at last been razed to the ground and the place it occupied left vacant on the hilltop, still with it's view, it's oak grove, it's many memories of the happy years it lived, and the floating vision of the many who entered it's portals.....she has gone but her work lives on.... and to the end of time will it's waves of influence reach out until all are merged in the great hereafter where all it's splendid living will be unrolled in the book of remembrance at the great day of Accounting.

For some years a Seminary Paper was issued called "Oak Leaves" and proved a source of great interest in keeping in touch with the inner life of the institution.

The Alumnae Association began to function as

soon as the graduates numbered enough to maintain it and are still meeting annually to keep in remembrance the many teachers and pupils who have been at some time one of the school family.

A Marker was placed at the foot of the grounds at Gull Road and dedicated with a fitting program to mark the location of this school during it's forty years of life.

In the Winter number of 1936 of the Michigan History Magazine, there was published a very fine article concerning the Seminary entitled "A Michigan Landmark Passes," by Richard B. Schopbach of Kalamazoo. M.A.T. 1936 Feb.



Robinson -

Elmer Wilford Middaugh

ELMER WILFORD MIDDLEAUGH

1923 - 1945

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Elmer Wilford Middleaugh was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, March 4, 1923, the son of Elmer H. and Clara G. Tittle Middleaugh. The father was of French descent and the mother also had some French ancestry. Elmer was born at 120 West Bush street.

He first attended the Lincoln School in Kalamazoo and later completed the ninth grade in Central High School. He then found employment at various places, the last of which was three months with the Bryant Paper Company tending a coating machine.

Elmer enlisted in the Armed Service of the United States November 30, 1942. At the same time his two nephews, Louis Gerald Hanes and Lloyd Harold Hanes, also enlisted. The Hanes boys had been brought up with Elmer, whose mother had taken them into her home when they were little and the three grew up together under her loving care.

Elmer spent eighteen days at Fort Custer and was then sent to Fort Meade in South Dakota, where he received his basic training. The last of January

1943 he was transferred to Camp Young in California and was there until August 1, 1943, when he returned to Kalamazoo to visit his home and family on a fifteen day furlough. He then went to Camp Maxey in Texas and remained there until November 1943 when he went to New York City and sailed the last of that month for England where he spent Christmas and wrote home that he liked England and had a nice holiday.

Elmer's nephew, Lloyd Harold Hanes, was with him through training at Fort Meade, Camp Young and Camp Maxey, as was Lloyd's brother, Louis.

In June 1944 Elmer left England for France to join Company F in General Hodges First Army. He was and assistant tank driver and in the battle of Normandy he was wounded July 13, 1944. He was taken to the Fourth Convalescent Hospital in France and was there for two weeks, during which time he received the Purple Heart with the accompanying citation:

Fourth Convalescent Hospital
APO U. S. Army

18 July 1944

General Order
Number 13

Extract

65. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45 dated 22 September 1943, the Purple Heart is awarded to the following for wounds received in action against the enemy on the 13th of July, 1944, in France.

Pvt. Elmer W. Middaugh 16088396 CAV.
Entered the service from Mich.

By Order of the Commanding Officer

After he was in the hospital Elmer was in a rest camp in Belgium until October 26, 1944, when he went back to his outfit in Germany.

In a letter he wrote home July 17, 1944, he said he received "a little shock when a shell hit pretty close home."

Personal Characteristics

Elmer Wilford Middaugh was six feet tall and weighed about 200 pounds with dark brown hair and gray eyes.

He enjoyed roller skating, dancing, fishing and hunting. He liked to read history and enjoyed music. He attended the Park Street Church of Christ and his letters showed a reverent interest in religion and in his letters he asked for prayers.

The following copy of a letter speaks for itself:

HEADQUARTERS 4TH CAVALRY GROUP
APO 230, C/o Postmaster
New York, New York

16 March 1945

Mrs. Clara Middaugh,
1009 North Burdick
Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Dear Mrs. Middaugh:

The War Department through official channels has notified you of the death of your son. Knowing how keenly his loss will be felt by the immediate members of his family, I am taking the liberty of explaining the circumstances attending his supreme sacrifice in the hope that despite its sadness, the

knowledge may be of some comfort to you.

Your son, Elmer W. Middaugh, was killed in action on March 4 1945, while advancing with his platoon which was attacking an enemy held town east of the Erft Canal and in the vicinity of Cologne, Germany. His death was caused instantly when the tank in which he was riding was struck by the direct fire of an enemy anti-tank gun.

He was buried in an American Cemetery somewhere in Belgium, and a Protestant Chaplain officiated at the services held for him.

He was respected by his associates in the Service as a man of outstanding devotion to duty. His loss is deeply felt and sincerely regretted.

On behalf of the officers and men of the 4th Cavalry I extend my heartfelt sympathy and express the hope that the Almighty who saw fit to take your son will also give you the courage to bear your loss bravely.

Pvt. Elmer W. Middaugh, 16088396
4th Cavalry Ren Sq, Mecz.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN C. MACDONALD
Colonel, Cavalry,
Commanding.

A memorial service was held for Elmer W. Middaugh and Louis G. Hanes at the Park Street Church of Christ Sunday April 8, 1945, at 3 P. M., the Reverend William P. Walker and the Reverend John D. Hull officiating.

Fred H. Milham



F R E D H A R O L D M I L H A M

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From a pioneer cabin on an Indian trail through a forest to a modern golf course seems a far cry, yet such a change took place during the life time of Fred Harold Milham in the property that his father, John Milham, bought in the early 1840's. It lay between the Town Line Road on the South, the Grand Rapids and Indiana railroad on the East, and Lovers Lane on the West, extending on the North as far as Lakeway, making a total of about 450 acres. Within two years from the time he arrived at the log cabin, John Milham built a large roomy new house nearer to Portage Road, and it was in this house that there were born ten children to him and his third wife, Louisa Anderson, daughter of Eli and Abigal Anderson of Comstock Township: Randolph, the eldest, died in infancy, John, Almira, Robert, Carrie, Fred, Gertrude, Frank and the twins Louis and Louisa, who also died in infancy.

Fred Harold was born September 8, 1858, and as a child, played in the abandoned log cabin, with the huge fire place where great logs were burned, and

where the old candle moulds, and other implements of early pioneer life, were stored as their usefulness decreased.

With his brothers and sisters, Fred attended the school built by his father just north of the homestead, and later went to the school built at the bend in Portage Road on land donated by his father. It was an established custom that all school teachers lived at the Milham's, and that the school was pretty carefully supervised by Mr. Milham. After completing the work offered in the district school, Fred and his brothers were sent to Parsons Business College, and his sisters to Mount Holyoke Female Seminary in Kalamazoo. After graduating from Parsons Business College, Fred attended Valparaiso Normal School in Indiana, and prepared to teach. His first school was at County Center, east of the homestead and near enough so that he could live at home and ride to school on horse back. The next school was known as the Smith District, and was so far from home that he followed the general custom of the time, and "boarded round" in the homes of the school patrons, the length of time in each home depending on the number of children sent to school. After two years at the Smith school, he returned to

work with his brothers on the home farm. This had been divided among the four sons who were then living at home: John, the eldest, chose the acres which are now, 1943, included in John Milham Park; Robert chose the homestead, and the land which is now the golf course; Fred took the 113 acres that lie along the Town Line Road, from the Grand Rapids and Indiana railroad on the east to the present golf course on the west; and to Frank fell the remaining land north of the homestead, which he later sold to John Barney.

On this property, Fred built his home near the old homestead, moved a large barn from the homestead, set out the osage and spruce hedges from which the farm takes its name, "The Hedges".

On October 28, 1885, he married Jennie Belle Pomeroy, daughter of Norton and Jane Chipman Pomeroy, who lived on a large farm which bordered the southern limits of Kalamazoo. To them were born: Gertrude; Lawrence, who died at the age of twenty months; Elbert; Donald; Philop; and Laura, who died when three years old.

In 1896 the first unit of the Bryant Paper Company had been built through the efforts of Frank Milham and his father-in-law, Noah Bryant, a veteran paper maker, who had learned his trade in his native

England, and had also worked in paper mills in Massachusetts, Kalamazoo and Otsego. On June 29, 1896, Fred entered the employ of the Bryant Paper Company, and there he remained until his retirement in June 1923. He continued to manage the operation of his farm.

At the time of the First World War, Elbert served in the Engineers, and was later transferred to Chemical Warfare, since he had been graduated from the University of Michigan as a Chemical Engineer in June, 1917. He was engaged in the manufacture of the highly destructive gas which was perfected just prior to the signing of the armistice. Philip served overseas in the Medical Corps, and Donald served in the Infantry, First Division, and was killed in action on October 4, 1918. At this time, Fred offered his services as a Y. M. C. A. worker, but due to his age, was not accepted.

In the summer of 1920, he went to France to visit Donald's grave in the American Cemetery at Romagne. At that time he decided that he wished to have Donald's body returned to the United States, for he felt sure that that country was destined to be a battle ground in the not far distant future. During that summer, he also visited Belgium, Switzerland

and England.

He delighted in travel, and in the study of history, and after his retirement, traveled extensively in Canada, and every section of the United States, and from his store of historic information, he made the past live for himself and his companions.

Always interested in education and the church, he founded the first Sunday school in his neighborhood, and for many years was its superintendent. The present Damon Methodist Church is the outgrowth of this school. He contributed to the building and support of this church as well as to the building of the First Presbyterian Church of which he was long a member.

On October 21, 1942, he died at his home in his 84th year, the last of the immediate family of John Milham, pioneer.

M R . & M R S .
G E O R G E C L I N T O N M I L H A M
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George Clinton Milham and Bessie Louisa Nelson were married May 1, 1894, and began housekeeping on Grant street in Kalamazoo, Michigan. In 1895 they moved to Johnson street and in the fall of 1896 to Stockbridge avenue, eventually owning a home at number 722. After ten years residence in this home, they sold it and lived at the corner of South Westnedge and West Walnut streets. In 1911 they built a home at 911 Egleston avenue, where they resided for thirteen years. After selling this property, they moved to the sixty acre farm in Comstock township, where they reside at the time of this writing in 1943. They also have an interest in the old Nelson farm, located on section 24 of Kalamazoo township and known as "Central Park."

George Clinton Milham was born on the farm located on section 29 in Comstock township, Kalamazoo county, Michigan, June 26, 1871, son of Martin and Lucy Lee Milham, who were married in Michigan on

Wedding Picture of Mr. & Mrs. George Clinton Milham



February 26, 1868, and later made their home and lived on an eighty acre farm known as the Catherine B. Lee's farm in Kalamazoo county.

Martin Milham was born in the state of New York September 13, 1835, son of John Milham's second marriage. Lucy Lee, his wife, was born May 16, 1843, daughter of Catherine Bradley Lee, who was born November 17, 1809, married (1) March 31, 1830, Ethan Bradley, who was born January 6, 1807, who became the father of Helen, born September 12, 1832 - after his death, Catherine Bradley married (2) March 12, 1840, George Clinton Lee and became the mother of James Sprague January 17, 1841, and Lucy Lee, who became Martin Milham's wife.

John Milham was married four times. By his first wife he became the father of William, Ambrose, James and Richard; the children of his second marriage were Martin, Matthias, Oliver, Marilla and Mary; his third wife was Louisa Anderson, daughter of Eli and Abigail Anderson of Comstock township, and they became the parents of: Randolph, who died in infancy; John; Almira; Robert; Carrie; Fred; Gertrude; Frank; twins Louis and Louisa, who died in infancy.

The first of the Milhams to come to Michigan was William, oldest son of John Milham. He came early in the 1840s and was one of Michigan's early

pioneers. Not long afterward John Milham came from New York state and purchased the property in Kalamazoo county lying between the Town Line Road on the south, the Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad, now the Pennsylvania Railroad, on the east, Lovers Lane on the west, and extending north as far as Lakeway, a total of 450 acres. Within two years he had built a substantial home to replace the log cabin in which he had first settled.

After all his children were grown to maturity, John Milham divided his land. John received the acres now included in Milham Park. Robert was given what is now the golf course. Fred took 113 acres lying along the Town Line Road from the G. R. & I. railroad on the east to what is now the golf course on the west. Frank's share was the remaining land north of the homestead, which he later sold to John Barney.

Martin and Lucy Milham also became the parents of:

Clara Almyra, born December 27, 1868, married William Owens and they became the parents of
George, who married Mabel Nelson and became the father of Ruby Frances and resides in Walkerton, Indiana:

Ruth, who married Leon Andrus, lives on Mills street in Kalamazoo and became the mother of
Roy, who is married and works for the Kalamazoo Gazette,
Albert and Owen, both in U. S. Navy;

Irene, who died in infancy;

Ancil Lee, born January 12, 1875, married Florence Winchell, a New York girl, and died September 17, 1942, was the father of Morris, who died in France soon after the armistice was signed in 1918, and is buried at Brest, France;

Mary Ivy, born June 24, 1876, died September 24, 1942, married (1) Arthur Brott of Battle Creek, Michigan, and became the mother of Carl and Raymond, married (2) Frank Nichols and became the mother of Vida May;

Nina Belle, born April 18, 1880, married Harry James and they became the parents of Howard, Clare, Dale, Clinton, Herman and Margaret and reside in Kalamazoo, Mich.;

Gertrude Irene, born October 19, 1882, married Alonzo Stimpson, became the mother of Bernard and Thelma and passed away June 17, 1909;

Lucy Lavinia, born December 11, 1883, married (1) Earl Skillman and became the mother of Mildred, married (2) Alonzo Stimpson and they became the parents of Maynard, Maurice, Maxine and Mary.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Milham were also the parents of two other children who died in infancy.

George Clinton Milham attended the district school No. 9, Comstock township and worked on his father's farm until he was twenty-one years of age, when he went to Kalamazoo to learn electric welding in the employ of his brother-in-law, William Owens.

In 1893 he was employed for one year at the State Hospital, doing electric work, and then went to work at the Municipal Lighting Plant in Kalamazoo.

George Clinton Milham went from the Municipal Lighting Plant in Kalamazoo to the Kalamazoo Valley Electric Company, now the Consumers Power Company, after which he conducted his own shop for a time and then went back to the Municipal Lighting Plant as superintendent until 1910, when for one year he worked in partnership with two other men.

In June 1911, he went to work for his Uncle Frank Milham at the Bryant Paper Company, where he remained for thirteen years and then retired to do light farming on his farm in Comstock township.

Bessie Louisa Nelson was born November 5, 1872, daughter of Alexander and Ella Louise Wright Nelson. Alexander Nelson was born about 1829 and died in 1899. Ella Louise Wright was born in Utica, state of New York, and was reared in the home of Alexander Nelson's mother.

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Nelson were also the parents of:

Andrew, who married Louise Timm, became the father of Lawrence and is deceased;

Cara, George and Frank, all deceased;

Florence, who married Glenn Wynn and died March 22, 1943;

Edna, married George Brown who is deceased and she lives near Kalamazoo, Michigan.

In personal appearance George Clinton Milham

is five feet, ten inches tall and weighs about 145 pounds, with blue eyes, and with blonde hair in his younger days, turning to silver now.

Mrs. Milham is five feet, two inches tall, with brown hair and hazel eyes, and of medium build. Both are youthful looking, enthusiastic in their expression of interest in their common hobbies of vegetable and flower gardening and promoting the care of old people by their own personal efforts and through the Townsend Club to which they belong and in the program of which they heartily believe.

In politics, their family background was with the Democrat party, but they are quite independent voters. In religious matters they favor the Episcopalian Church. Both are alert to changes in world conditions. They are interesting conversationalists, warm in their contacts with others, outstanding personalities.

The Milham name is widely and favorably known in Southwestern Michigan and none of the family is more warmly regarded than Mr. and Mrs. George Clinton Milham.

William Bayard Milham



W. B. Milham



Cora Pike Milham

W I L L I A M B A Y A R D M I L H A M

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C O R A A D E L L E P I K E M I L H A M

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William Bayard Milham, one of the citizens of Kalamazoo who won distinction as one of the most prominent farmers and businessmen, was born in a frame house on a 200 acre farm in Indian Fields December 29, 1857. Indian Fields is a tract of about 400 acres on Portage road just south of Kalamazoo where Lindbergh Field is now located. The area was first cleared by the mound builders and later inhabited by the Pottawattomie Indians who grew corn and vegetables and built a village and had a burying ground.

William Bayard Milham was the son of Lydia Turner and Ambrose Milham, a descendant of one of two brothers who came from England and settled on the Hudson river in Dutchess county, New York, in 1710. Ambrose Milham, son of John Milham, came to Kalamazoo in 1845. It was from the farm of the latter that the land was given to the city of Kalamazoo for Milham park.

William Bayard Milham attended the rural school and remained on the farm until 1910, when he moved to 836 West Lovell street, Kalamazoo, so that the children could attend high school.

When the Bardeen Paper Company was organized and built a plant in Otsego, Michigan, Mr. Milham became a stockholder. That was about 1886. In 1895, he became one of the original organizers of the Bryant Paper Company with a plant in Kalamazoo. Later the Bardeen Paper Company became a part of the Allied Paper Company.

Mr. Milham served as president of the Bryant Paper Company and when he resigned he was made chairman of the board. He also served as president of the Illinois Envelope Company, Kalamazoo, and when he resigned he was made chairman of that board. He is vice president of the Home Savings Bank, Kalamazoo, and holds the office of director in the Grace Corset Company, the Railway Supply Company of Kalamazoo, and the Amco Twist Drill Company of Jackson, Michigan.

Mr. Milham is a member of the Park club, attends the First Presbyterian Church and is a Democrat who "believes in equal rights for every body and special privileges for nobody".

October 28, 1885, Mr. Milham was married to Cora Adelle Pike, daughter of Fanny Beckley and George Pike, born at the Pike farm on White's road January 2, 1859. Her mother's father, Joseph Beckley, settled on Dry Prairie in 1836, taking his land from the government. Mr. and Mrs. George Pike later moved to Portage Center, where Cora was married to Mr. Milham.

Mr. and Mrs. Milham were the parents of:

Wayne W., who married Irene Fairchild, is the father of Ann and Marian, resides in Kalamazoo;

Allen B., married Eleanor Nelson of Chicago, is the father of Dorothy Eleanor, William B., and Emily, resides in Kalamazoo;

Irving A., married Clara Woodruff, is the father of Carole Louise and Nancy Ann, resides in Kalamazoo;

Grace E., who resides in Kalamazoo with her father.

Mr. and Mrs. Milham celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary October 28, 1936. In 1932, Mrs. Milham suffered a stroke in Florida and was an invalid until her death which occurred November 20, 1939.

The funeral was conducted by Dr. Paul Silas Heath, her pastor, and burial was in the Indian Fields cemetery.

Written in 1940

Brinton Miller



B R I N T O N M I L L E R

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Brinton Miller was born in Canton township, Wayne county, near Detroit, Michigan, April 9, 1866, son of Stephen and Eliza Carney Miller, of Pennsylvania Dutch ancestry.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Miller were married December 11, 1860, in Chester county, Pennsylvania. He was born October 12, 1839, the son of Josiah and Lydia Ann Dean Miller, who were married about the year 1835, and settled in Chester county, Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Josiah Miller were also the parents of Rachel and John. Lydia Ann Miller died about the year 1843. Josiah Miller married a second time, a lady whose first name was Ann and they were the parents of William, born in Smyrna, Delaware. Josiah Miller passed away in July, 1888.

Eliza Carney was born in Chester county, Pennsylvania, April 15, 1842. She and her husband, Stephen Miller, became the parents also of:

Linda Ann, born January 18, 1862, in Chester county, Pennsylvania, married Orange Porter Fales, March 17, 1878, at Middleville, Michigan, became the mother of Lo, born January 18, 1879, and died January 26, 1879, aged 8 days,

Audrey Eliza, born January 24, 1887, in
Wayland township, Allegan county,
Michigan;

Glenn G., born July 2, 1889, Wayland;

John M., February 24, 1891, Wayland;

Linda Ann passed away March 5, 1891, aged
29 years, 1 month and 18 days;

Sarah, born August 16, 1863, in Chester county,
Pennsylvania, was married to Omer Turner
Fales, August 15, 1880, at Dutton, Kent
county, Michigan, and they became the
parents of
Myrtie Bell, born August 26, 1885, and
Floyd Omer, born July 13, 1891 - Omer
Fales passed away July 31, 1932, aged 76
years, 7 months;

Ira, born October 6, 1869, in Allegan county,
married Florence Ives, October 22, 1890,
at Allegan;

Cora S., born November 1, 1874, in Allegan
county, Michigan, was married to Frank
Barrows, August 3, 1893, at Allegan, and
they became the parents of
Vern, born May 24, 1894, in Martin, Mich.,
Bernard, born May 24, 1899, in Wayland, Tp.
Vern passed away December 27, 1898, aged
four years, seven months, three days;

Herbert Stephen, born October 2, 1878, in
Allegan, Michigan, was married to Lila
Hollister, March 31, 1897, in Allegan, and
they became the parents of
Gerald, born February 26, 1899, in Wayland,
Michigan,
Emily, born April 13, 1902, in Grand Rapids,
Michigan, died in July 1902,
Margaret, born July 10, 1904, in Grand
Rapids, Michigan,

Stephen Miller passed away April 16, 1915, aged
75 years, 6 months and 4 days. Eliza Miller passed
away January 3, 1923, aged 80 years, 8 months and
19 days.

Myrtie Bell, daughter of Omer and Sarah Fales, was married to F. Clyde McClintock, August 26, 1903, in Wayland, Allegan county, Michigan.

Audrey Eliza, daughter of Orange and Linda Ann Fales, was married to John Dean, February 26, 1906, at Wayland, Michigan, and they became the parents of:
Avis Luella, born June 27, 1906, Wayland,
John Albert, born September 30, 1910, at Wayland, Michigan,
Glenna Louise, born February 13, 1912 at Wayland, Michigan, and
Audrey June, born June 4, 1920, in Gun Plains township, died September 22, 1924, aged 4 years, 3 months, 18 days.

Glenn G., son of Orange Porter and Linda Ann Fales, was married to Jessie I. Chamberlain, November 14, 1910, in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and they became the parents of
Francis Orange, born October 19, 1917,
Idalyn G., born February 10, 1920,
Geraldine Louise, born October 26, 1922.

John M., son of Orange Porter and Linda Ann Fales, was married to Ella Estel Morris, August 12, 1913, at Kalamazoo, Michigan, and they became the parents of
Hazel Alinda, born January 15, 1915, in Leighton township, Allegan county,
Versal Charles, born January 1, 1916, in Leighton township, Allegan county,
Willard John, born December 28, 1919, in Wayland township, Allegan county,
Crystal Estel, born April 6, 1922, in Leighton township, Allegan county.
Ella Estel died August 15, 1933, aged 39 years, 8 months and 3 days.

Floyd C., son Omer Turner and Sarah Fales, was married to Hannah E. Henke, on October 3, 1913, at Allegan, Michigan, and they became the parents of
Lillian Elizabeth, born March 19, 1919, in Wayland township; d. in infancy
Floyd Rupert, born April 26, 1920, in Wayland township,
Clyde Russell, born April 15, 1922, in Wayland township.

Bernard, son of Frank and Cora S. Barrows, was married to Georgia Van Auken, December 31, 1922, at Grand Rapids, Michigan, and they became the parents of Bernard, Jr., born May 4, 1930, in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Margaret, daughter of Herbert S., and Lila Miller, was married to Melvin Lull, June 18, 1924, and they became the parents of Thomas Miller, born November 29, 1929, at Grand Rapids, Michigan, and Trayton Spencer, born November 13, 1934, at Grand Rapids, Michigan, and

Hazel Alinda, daughter of John M. and Ella Fales, was married to Floyd Steele, May 30, 1934, at Otsego, Allegan county, Mich., and they became the parents of Charles Edward, at Plainwell, Michigan.

Brinton Miller attended the school near his home and then worked at farming.

April 3, 1889, he was married to Clara Belle Doxey, at Shelbyville, Allegan county, Michigan, and they became the parents of Dale Leonard, April 8, 1909, while residing on West Cedar street in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Scarlet fever and a mastoid operation resulted in Dale's death March 13, 1913, aged 3 years, 11 months and 5 days.

Clara Belle Doxey was born June 23, 1869, the daughter of Leonard and Susan Green Doxey, the first white people in the vicinity of the Selkirk Indian Mission. Leonard Doxey was the first post master in Shelbyville. He and his wife were married October 6, 1856, and became the parents also of:

Ella, born February 6, 1859, married Fremont Young, who is deceased, and they became the parents of Susan and Frances, resided in Battle Creek, Michigan, - Ella died August 16, 1936;

Florence, called Floy, born February 7, 1861, married Otto Gleason, and died childless October 12, 1920, having resided at Andrews, Indiana;

Elmer, born May 21, 1863, married Lutitia Fox, who is deceased at this time, 1943, and they became the parents of Lela, Floy, Leonard, Harry Wesley, Paul and Starr, and resided in Kalamazoo, Michigan, where Elmer died September 12, 1921; and

Gilbert, born January 2, 1879, married Ida Patton, and they became the parents of Gertrude and Ruth - he is a practicing Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist in Minneapolis, Minnesota, having been graduated from the Martin High School and from Hanneman Medical College in Chicago, Illinois.

The Indians of the Selkirk Indian Mission were friendly and Mr. Doxey gave them permission to tap the maple trees on his place and make maple sugar.

Mr. and Mrs. Brinton Miller began housekeeping in the village of Martin, Allegan county, Michigan, and lived there for two and one-half years, during which time Mr. Miller worked on farms near by.

They moved to Kalamazoo, Michigan, December 1, 1892, and lived on Kromdyke Court. After moving a number of times, they finally bought a home at 1215 James street, where they resided thereafter. When their son Dale Leonard was taken away they resided on

Arcadia Court, the body of the four year old baby boy was laid to rest in the Elmwood cemetery at Wayland, Michigan.

After coming to Kalamazoo, Mr. Miller was employed for about two years for the Hicks Buggy Company, after which he worked for Lane and Lay in the Michigan Buggy Company. He then went to work for the Williams Manufacturing Company, now the Tank and Silo Company.

He then decided to engage in the barber's trade and learned how at St. Joseph, Michigan, after which he opened his shop in the 400 block on Portage street in Kalamazoo. After working at his trade in other parts of the city, he was employed with the barbers Alcock and Lackey in the Engleman block. His next move was to go into partnership with Fred Rinehart and buy a shop on East Michigan avenue just east of the Sears Roebuck store, where they did business for seven years. This shop was sold and Mr. Miller bought a shop in the Rickman Hotel. When he became ill with diphtheria followed by paralysis and was unable to work for several months, he sold the shop and later returned to work for Mr. Lackey, then located on West Main street. Later he went to work for Klose and Parkhurst on Portage street just off from East Michigan avenue. After that he bought a

shop at 1114 Lake street, where he worked until he was stricken with coronary thrombosis and passed away December 1, 1936.

The funeral services were conducted by the Reverend Mr. Crawford and burial was in Elmwood cemetery at Wayland, Michigan.

In personal appearance, Mr. Miller was five feet, six inches tall, of medium build, with black hair, which early turned to silver, and brown eyes. He was a fine looking gentleman. He was retiring in social relationships and a great lover of children. They gathered around him in his leisure time and when for two months he lay ill, they came to see him.

Mr. Miller enjoyed for diversion, radio, cards, fishing, reading and driving.

Mrs. Miller is a cultured Christian woman, five feet, four inches tall, with brown hair and blue eyes. Her family was composed of outstanding church people. They attended the Methodist Church in Shelbyville and in earlier days at a school house three miles away. Mrs. Miller's mother was converted to the Christian life under the preaching of a college student from Hiram College, who rode horseback to the Disciple Church near her home, there being no resident pastor at that time. The name of the student who had not yet been ordained as a minister, was James A. Garfield,

who was later the martyred President of the United States. Mrs. Miller's mother, Susan Green, wanted to be baptized and Mr. Garfield, not being ordained, assisted in making arrangements for an ordained minister by the name of Bellingham to administer the rite of baptism.

Mr. Miller's people were Methodists, but he and Mrs. Miller selected the Park Street Church of Christ for their fellowship. She was active in the Womans Council and the Bible School and served as Cradle Roll Superintendent. They were both active members of the church all their married life and Mrs. Miller continues to be devoutly interested in the work of her church.

Mr. Miller was a Republican and took an active interest as a good citizen in the local and national political affairs. He was well liked, was pleasant and witty and popular with his patrons. He and Mrs. Miller kept open house to their friends. They were honest in their dealings and lived according to the teachings of the Bible. They are the kind of people that make a community and a nation strong. May their kind be multiplied!

ward J. Miller



W A R D J M I L L E R

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Ward J. Miller was born at Glenn lake in Leelanau county, Michigan, December 17, 1864. He attended school until he was able to teach and for some time was a school teacher.

He also acquired skill as an optometrist and did considerable business fitting glasses. As a salesman he distributed Singer sewing machines and a medicine known as "Amberita."

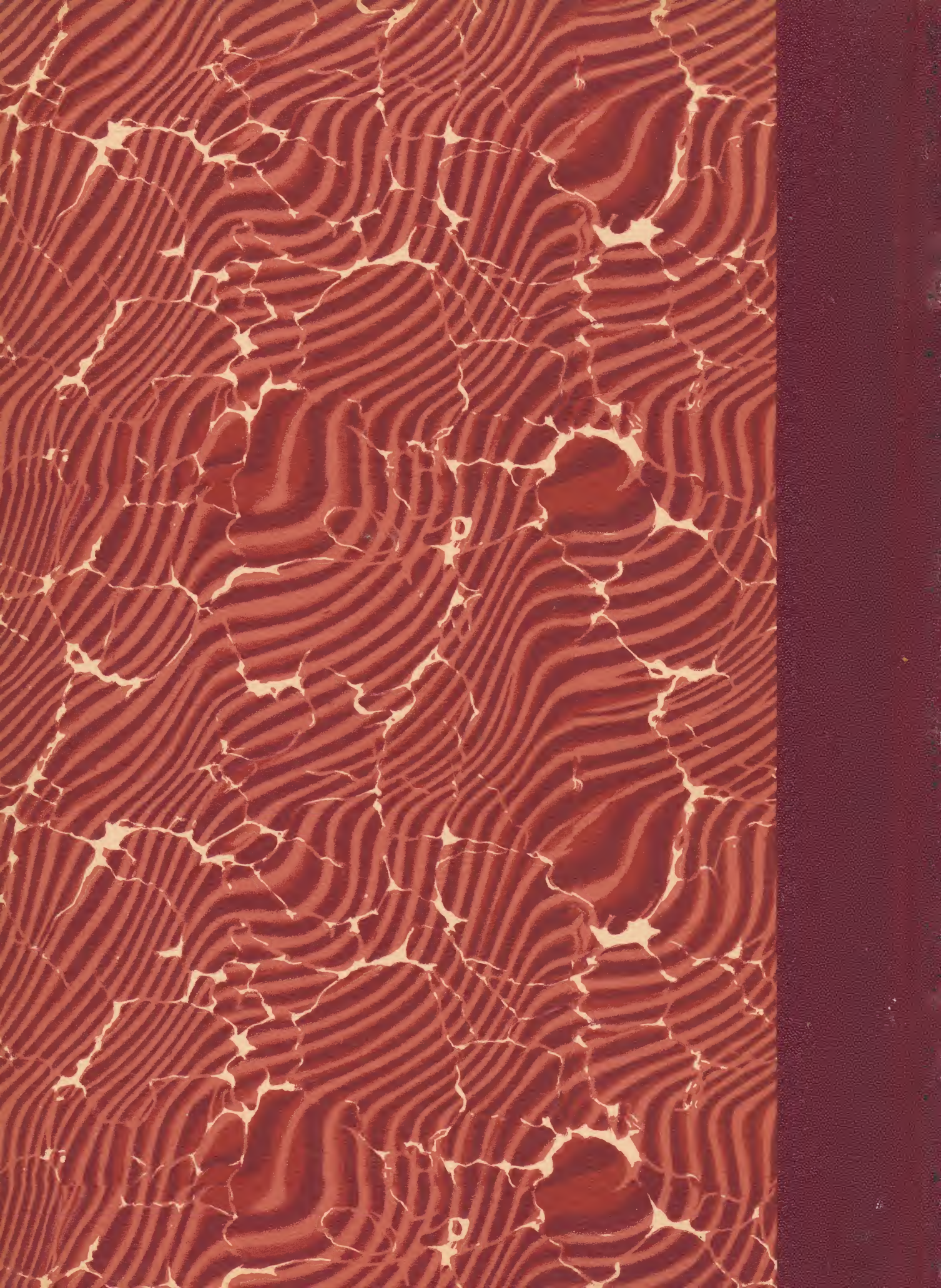
Mr. Miller was twice married. The first was to Rebecca Cote, who became the mother of Leon W. Miller of Comstock, Michigan, circuit court stenographer, and Arthur L. Miller of Watervliet, Michigan. His second marriage was June 11, 1935, to Delilah Allen Hall, the widow of Obed E. Hall, who died December 12, 1934. While she was Mrs. Hall she lived on a farm two and one-half miles east of Allegan. Since February 29, 1920, she has resided at 409 West Kalamazoo Avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Mr. Ward Miller was interested in political matters and was intensely interested in base ball,

especially the Detroit Tigers. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Kalamazoo and of the Independent Order of Oddfellows.

Death came to Ward J. Miller August 22, 1940. The funeral was conducted by the Reverend Paul Silas Heath, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Kalamazoo and burial was in Mount Ever-Rest cemetery.

He was survived by his widow, Delilah; two sons, Leon W. Miller and Arthur L. Miller; three grandsons and two granddaughters.





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